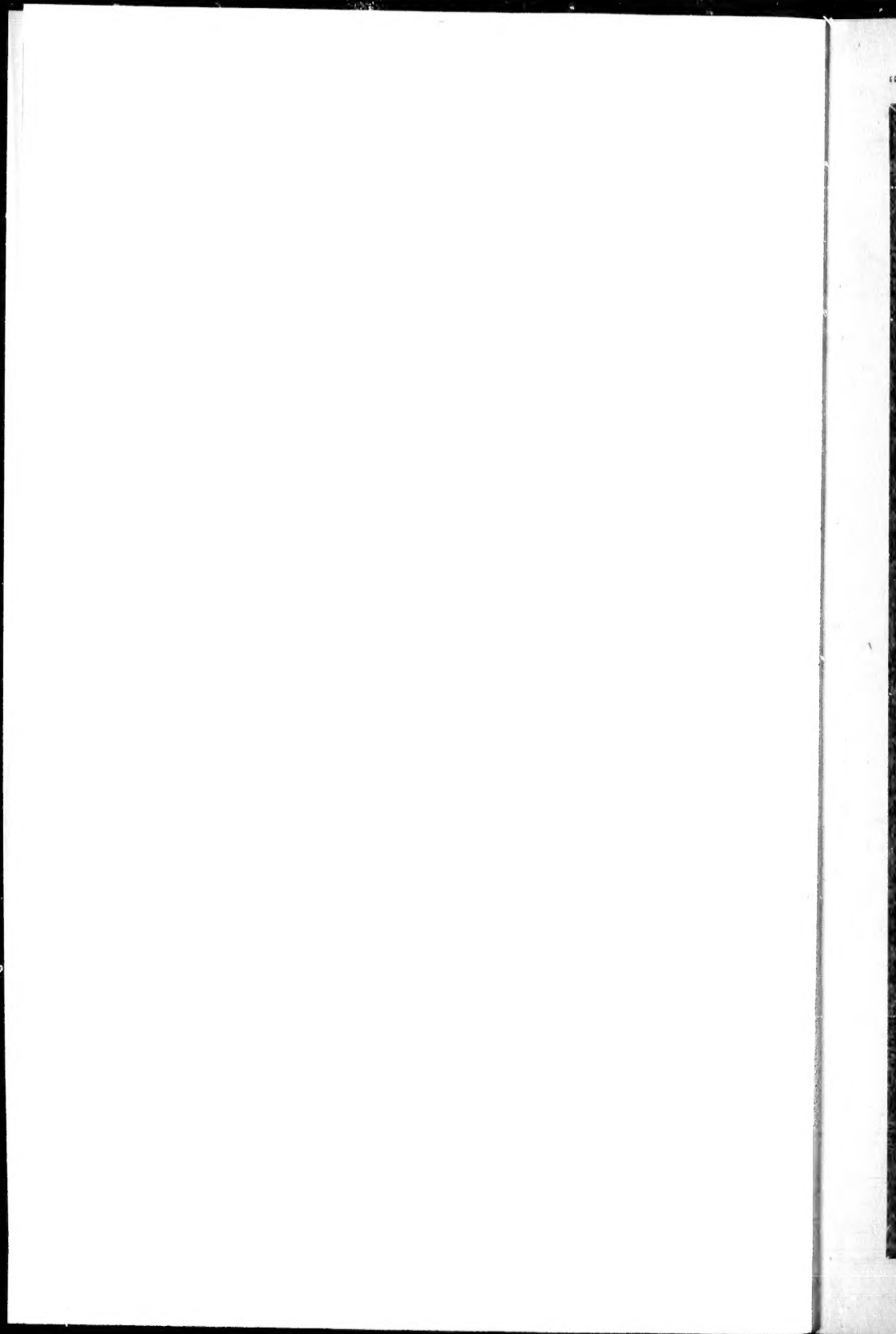




"A BRITISH SUBJECT I WILL DIE."

IN MEMORY OF

The late Rt. Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald, G.C.M.G.,

*Thirteen years Prime Minister of Canada, and the First
Vice-President of "The United Empire Trade League,"
this extract from his Address to the People of Canada
on February 7th, 1891, is re-published.*

"TO the descendants of the multitude of Englishmen, Irishmen, and Scotchmen, who emigrated that they might build up new homes without ceasing to be British subjects, I appeal—and I ask you, what have you to gain by surrendering that which your Fathers held most dear?

A British Subject I was born :
A British Subject I will die.

With my utmost effort, with my latest breath, will I oppose the 'veiled treason' which attempts by sordid means and mercenary proffers to lure our people from their allegiance. During my long public service of nearly half a century I have been true to my country and its best interests, and I appeal with equal confidence to the men who have trusted me in the past, and to the young hope of the country, with whom rests its destinies in the future, to give me their united and strenuous aid in this my last effort for the Unity of the Empire and the preservation of our commercial and political freedom."

Aye! great Canadian brother, although this soul-stirring proclamation to our people and our race was uttered alas

"With your latest breath,"

Canada still hears your patriot voice. It shall be sounded in every city and hamlet in Britain. It shall travel through Australasia and Africa. It shall be welcomed in

GREATER BRITAIN OF THE EAST,
IN

GREATER BRITAIN OF THE WEST,

and, in answer, the British People will carry on to final and triumphant victory your last great effort for

THE UNITY OF THE EMPIRE,
AND
THE PRESERVATION OF BRITISH COMMERCIAL FREEDOM.

For forms of adhesion to "THE UNITED EMPIRE TRADE LEAGUE," in which the deceased Imperial Statesman took the deepest interest, write to THE HONORARY SECRETARY, "United Empire Trade League," 1, Grosvenor Square, London.

[OVER.

FROM "THE TIMES," MONDAY, JUNE 8th, 1891.

"To-day the Canadian people mourns the veteran statesman who has for the last 13 years presided over its destinies—the statesman who maintained so remarkable a hold upon the confidence and affections of Canadians that his power and policy seemed impregnable to any assailant but death. A legitimate feeling of pride in a man whom Britain sent forth seventy years ago, a child of six years old, to seek his fortune in the New World, is one reason why we join with the Canadians in deploring the death of their veteran. But in SIR JOHN MACDONALD we have also lost a statesman who, while severely practical in his measures, was deeply imbued with the sentiment of Imperial unity, and could be trusted to foster it with all the energy at his command. His

'NATIONAL POLICY'

was the protest against absorption into the United States. Looking back at the past, we are able to see how almost irresistible would have been by this time the forces making for absorption, had not the 'National Policy' checked them in their beginnings."

FEDERATION.

In December, 1885, SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD consented to be interviewed on the subject of Federation by a representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette*. In the course thereof he said:—

"I have always felt strongly that the developments we are discussing will never be effected by the pressure of military considerations. It will be, when it comes, an entirely peaceful development; its *raison d'être*, that trade follows the flag. The real basis of union will be a commercial basis, and when you have constructed a sound foundation based upon increased trading facilities the heavier part of your task will have been completed. The basis of Federation must be such advantages given to the Colonies as you do not give to aliens. It seems to me that England must directly encourage the growth of her colonies. In short, she must attract their custom. She must give a preference to their commodities by taxing, however slightly, the produce of the outer world. Nor would this necessarily imply any increase of price to the consumer here. We in Canada want your emigrants, and are you not equally concerned that your surplus population should go to your Colonies rather than to the United States? Look at the Board of Trade returns; the annual consumption of English goods in the United States is eight shillings per head, but in Canada it is forty shillings, and in Australia more than £8; the interest, then, that England has in giving her bone and sinew to her Colonies rather than to America is as 160 is to 8! Your manufacturers are groaning about the contraction of the market for their goods, but it really seems that all you require to stimulate consumption is to stimulate colonial expansion by favouring tariffs. 'Is there any real movement in the United States towards Free Trade?'—It does not seem so; some slight adjustments of tariff there will no doubt be; the incidence of a tariff framed during the excitement of their Civil War, and never carefully revised, will require, no doubt, certain modifications; but the American working man, employed at high wages in a country where the necessities of life are extremely cheap, will never be reconciled to the presence of free imports produced by the labour of alien communities where the standard of living is much lower."

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